





PATENT 450100-02880

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Yujiro ITO et al.

Serial No. :

09/731,133

Filed

December 6, 2000

For

AUTO-FOCUS APPARATUS, FOCUS ADJUSTING METHOD,

IMAGE CAPTURING APPARATUS AND IMAGE CAPTURING

METHOD

Art Unit

2612

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
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<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)</u>

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued

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in the corresponding U.K. application on May 23, 2001. So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP Attorneys for Applicants

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